

CURRENT NEWS.

WASHINGTON.

The Secretary of the Treasury has signed a contract for the delivery in Europe of not less than \$5,000,000 per month of 4-per-cent bonds, upon the same terms and conditions as the popular loan now being offered in the United States, the contract to continue until the 1st of July, the proceeds to be applied to refunding 6-per-cent bonds.

The President has nominated W. P. Sutton, of Michigan, United States Consul at Matamoros, Mexico.

The Potter Committee on the 22d began an investigation of the cipher telegrams.

Gen. Sherman will soon start on a two weeks' tour of the Southern Atlantic States, to examine the abandoned military posts and neglected property of the United States, with a view to ascertaining the measures necessary to secure the interests of the United States.

The House Committee on Appropriations on the 22d finished the Post-office, Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation bills.

The President has signed the bill for the payment of arrears of pensions. The Commissioner of Pensions estimates that the arrears subject to payment under the provisions of the bill will aggregate \$80,000,000.

The Arkansas Legislature has elected J. D. Walker United States Senator, as successor to Senator Dorsey.

The Joint Congressional Committee appointed to consider the advisability of transferring the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department are equally divided on the subject, four being in favor of and four against the proposed change. Two reports will therefore be made to Congress, and there is some difficulty in deciding which of the two reports should be entitled to precedence.

There is some point in the Pension Arrears bill which it is thought will be referred by the Interior Department for construction from the Department of Justice. The new law says the arrears of pensions shall be paid at the rate for which the soldier was originally pensioned. As Congress has changed the rate several times and the latest applicants originally received the largest pensions, the man who gets pensioned now gets a heavy sum in arrears. The total pensioned man originally got \$8 per month, now he gets \$12. The question then in the case of a totally disabled new pensioner is, whether he be paid at the old rate of \$72 or \$8 per month. The Commissioner will ask Congress at once for an appropriation to carry out the law, and that it be made immediately available. The additional evidence needed in the Pension Arrears bill is that the pensioners now receiving pensions will be very small. The Commissioner will ask a small increase in clerks and that the pension agencies be restricted without increase of offices.

WEST AND SOUTHWEST.

The Missouri Legislature has chosen Geo. V. Vest for United States Senator, as successor to the late Senator Rogers, and General James Shields to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. G. A. Finkelnberg is the Republican candidate and Henry Reubahn the National-Republican candidate.

Gen. John A. Logan has been elected United States Senator from Illinois, to succeed Senator Oglesby. Gen. Logan received the unanimous vote of the Legislature. John C. Blair was the Democratic candidate, Alexander Campbell the National, and John McCall the Socialist candidate.

Daniel W. Voorhes has been re-elected United States Senator from Indiana. Goddard S. Orth was the Republican nominee.

By the explosion of a boiler of a portable saw-mill at Chase, Mich., on the 21st, three men were killed and three others wounded.

The Wisconsin Legislature has elected Matthew H. Carpenter to succeed Henry A. Near as United States Senator.

At New Garner Station, on the Mississippi and Tennessee Railroad on the 11th inst., Mrs. George Tucker and her three children were frozen to death. They started from the station about 2 p. m. for their home and froze to death when about five miles from their homes.

The proposed reapportionment of Indiana is calculated will give the Democrats nine Congressional districts—six secure, and others having Democratic majorities of 446, 871 and 888—and the Republicans four, with majorities ranging from 1,284 up to 6,840.

Horace L. Hyde, a well known St. Louis newspaper man, and brother of William Hyde, of the Republic, was found dead on a railroad track in the vicinity of Jefferson City, Mo., on the 21st, three miles from his home. He was found by a passing train. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict of accidental death.

At Washington, Iowa, on the morning of the 22d, Mr. O. P. Hart, an elderly, respected farmer, killed his daughter, Emma, splitting her head open with an ax while she was sleeping, and then blew his own brains out with a revolver. No cause for the tragedy is known, as the father and daughter were supposed to exist between father and daughter as well as between other members of the family, those remaining being the mother and five other daughters. It appears to have been an undoubted case of temporary insanity.

The Missouri State Insane Asylum No. 2, at St. Joseph, was destroyed by fire on the afternoon of the 22d. The fire originated in the dining-room, and spread so rapidly that it could not be checked by the meager appliances at hand. All of the inmates, 200 in number, were rescued.

Ben Daniels colored, and his two sons, who were under arrest near Arkadelphia, Ark., charged with robbery and arson, were taken from the Sheriff on the night of the 23d by a band of masked men and hanged to a tree.

Anamosa, Iowa, is having a terrible experience with diphtheria. There are several hundred cases there and many deaths have occurred. All the public schools have been closed, the Sunday-schools discontinued and religious services have been suspended and practically quarantined. At a meeting of citizens and physicians held to discuss measures to abate the complaint, it was recommended that the Mayor designate houses where diphtheria has returned, through a friend, \$50,000 to the bank he defrauded, having before paid \$4,000, besides private debts of \$2,000.

The California Constitutional Convention has rejected all the propositions to extend the elective franchise to women.

EAST AND SOUTHEAST.

Roscoe Conkling from New York and J. Donald Cameron from Pennsylvania, both Republicans, have been re-elected to the United States Senate; Connecticut elects O. H. Platt, Republican; North Carolina, Gov. Z. B. Vance, Democrat; Florida, Wilkinson Call, Democrat.

George S. Hillard, of Boston, the well known author and politician, died on the 21st, aged 70.

The Committee on Education commenced an investigation at Charleston, on the 21st, of the late general election in South Carolina.

In Hyde Park, Penn., on the night of the 20th, Mrs. Davis and her year-old child were burned to death by the explosion of a kerosene lamp.

The Judge John of Ogdensburg, N. Y., closed his doors on the 22d.

Hon. John Caldwell, Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, died of typhoid pneumonia on the 20th, in his 74th year. He was a son of the late Thos. Caldwell, and grandson of Gen. Jos. Caldwell, of Revolutionary fame.

Wilkinson Call, who has just been elected to the United States Senate from Florida to succeed Mr. Conover, is a resident of Jacksonville, and about 50 years of age. He is of Whig antecedents, was a Bell and Everett Elector in 1856, and during the late unpleasantness served in the Confederate Army. He was once before elected to the United States House of Representatives, under President Johnson, but failed of reelection.

It is stated that Daniel W. Voorhes has decided to withdraw his Parliamentary discipline bill, leaving the matter to the Reichstag.

Advices from Belgrade report the effect that the Serbian Boundary Commission, which was murdered by Turkish brigands near Plevna, the Swiss Council of State has asked for a legislative appropriation of 30,000 francs to relieve distress.

Alderman Wm. Clendenen, of Montreal, an extensive iron-founder, has fled the country, leaving his debts and his family behind him.

The French crisis has been averted by the Government effecting a compromise with the Left, thus securing a Ministry in accord with the majority of the Legislature.

General Grant left Paris on the 22d on his tour of duty.

The party accompanying him consisted of Mrs. Grant, Col. Fred. Grant, ex-Secretary of the Navy, and Mr. Keating, and a New York Herald correspondent.

Sanctuary Matthew Ward, the eminent English painter, is dead, at the age of 63. He committed suicide.

At the conference of the International Congress of the United States, at which Germany, Austria and Hungary were represented, stringent measures were adopted to prevent the plague now prevalent in Russia from spreading. All railway traffic between France and Vienna has been suspended and the Commission resolved, in the event of the spread of the epidemic, to entirely close the frontier.

The Grand Duchess Anastasia, daughter of the late Emperor, was married on the 24th, Prince Frederick of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, at the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg, with great ceremony. The city was illuminated at night.

The news from North Africa is that the Zulu King has accepted the British demands. The King has assembled 8,000 men on the border. The High Commissioner had placed all forces connected with Zulu affairs in the hands of Gen. Chelmsford, but gave King Cetshwayo the right of appeal to make full and unconditional submission.

A majority of the people of Venezuela have risen in favor of Guzman Blanco. Puerto Cabello is in the possession of the revolutionists and the Government. The war steamer Bolivia aided the fort, shelling the town and destroying much property and many lives.

It is reported that England intends to declare war on Cyprus.

Conflicting reports are received from the nominal continuance of the sovereignty of the Sultan. One million pounds sterling are offered, which the Sultan will probably accept.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

In the Senate, on the 21st, Mr. Morrill, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill to amend the act to facilitate refunding of the bonds of the United States, and the bill passed.

The total amount appropriated for the relief of the blind, placed on a perpetual fund to aid in the education of the blind, was \$100,000.

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